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Bangalore Mirror

TEMP Max 32 | Min 22 | Humidity 50% Partly cloudy Sensex 60,300 | Nifty 17,813 | Gold 60,300 | Silver 74,750 | Dollar 81.72 | Euro 90.57 | GBP 102.14

Tackle a trash black spot here, another one appears there: disjointed approach to waste management has stakeholders scrambling

LOOK, WHAT YOU DID TO CITY OF GARDENS!

Burn after dumping, is it the norm now, Bengaluru?

Y Maheswara Reddy
c-y.reddy@timesgroup.com

TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

It appears there is no end to the garbage menace in Bengaluru. The more Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) makes tall claims on its efforts to make Bengaluru a clean city, the more black spots mushroom across the city scape.

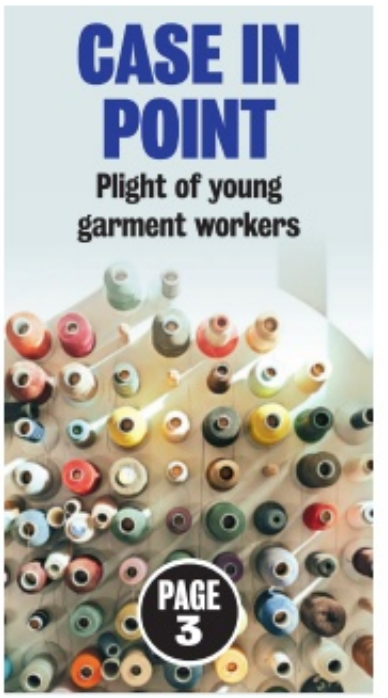
The civic body, social activists, and environmentalists have been working hard to minimise the number of black spots in the city but in vain.

For instance, the residents of Visvesvaraya Layout have been finding it difficult to use the one and only road that connects to Magadi Road due to the frequent dumping of garbage in the area. They complained that burning of garbage on this road has become a nuisance and also a health hazard for them.

"The service road along the 150 ft road that connects Visvesvaraya Layout to Magadi Road has become a destination for dumping all types of garbage. Trash is being burnt every day on this road. I have complained to the BBMP authorities but they did nothing to

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4 »

"It is easily within our reach to prevent this kind of waste pile-up causing odour, disease spread, visual distress, traffic hazards, dents to city's image and so on, with a partnership approach — Odette Katrak, co-founder, Beautiful Bharat



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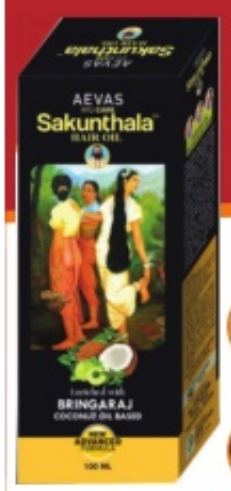

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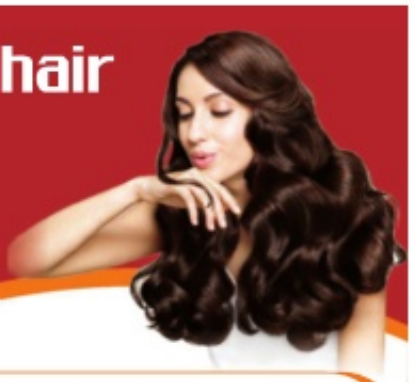

It increases blood circulation to the roots of thehair and strengthens hair thus preventing breakingof hair or hair loss.

When massaged on scalp, it ensures better blood circulation and prevents formation of dandruff.

It acts as a protective shield to the hair and prevents dry hair, thus making the hair shinier.

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For more details contact: From the house of A & J Health Care, Bangalore For a Healthy Society Ph: 8762226000, 9243112337

3 THINGS TO DO

01 All about the community

The monthly conversation circles for women will discuss different topics that affect us as a community. The sharing of perspectives can help us figure out new paradigms, showing us we are not alone as we journey into a better place mentally and spiritually. This is an evolving circle which offers a safe sharing ground, a friendship which engages in meaningful conversations and a community that cares. **Where: Lahe Lahe**
When: 30th April 4–6 pm

02 Books and more!

Atta Galatta presents "Word Wings" in collaboration with Sarsayee Foundation for Theatre and Education. Word Wings is a collaboration between Atta Galatta and Sarsayee Foundation for Theatre and Education's Lit World to explore flight of thought through words; simply put: book joy! It is an endeavour to offer a platform for exchange of ideas and opinions triggered by delving into books, works of creative minds, authors and poets and their take on all that they bring alive in the reader through words.
Where: Atta Galatta; When: April 29, 5:30 pm
Tickets: bookmyshow.com

03 Heal from within

Movement, music and plant medicine through a delicious plant-based menu to help one tap into your inner knowing. Through connecting to the elements, we discover our connection to nature and how we can live in more alignment with the rhythm of the universe, if we just learnt to pause & listen. A certified yoga therapist, Natasha Mahindra creates beautiful spaces and intimate gatherings, using sound, art and dance therapy in collaboration with yoga and other healing practices to offer a holistic experience out in nature. **Where: Bangalore Creative Circus;**
When: April 29, 10:30 am – 1:30 pm
Contact: 9845007353

Nail-biting moments

Amid the Bengaluru heat, cricket fans watch with bated breath what is an exciting match between IPL teams Royal Challengers Bangalore and Kolkata Knight Riders

PIC: KAUSHIK JN

Underground cable project nears the end

Almost 95% of BESCOM's initiative finished; it will solve many cable issues

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The Bangalore Electricity Supply Company (BESCOM) has completed 95 per cent of the underground high-tension cable installation project aimed at modernising the distribution system.

Out of the targeted 7,066 km of underground 11kV cabling, 6,673.45 km of underground cabling has been completed by February 28 in four phases in Bengaluru's limits.

"BESCOM had undertaken the underground cable installation project in 2018-19 with an estimated cost of Rs 5,400 crore. Due to the pandemic, the work was delayed by two years. However, last financial year, the work progressed briskly, and it has now reached the stage of completion," said a BESCOM official.

The underground cable installation will prevent voltage problems, reduce power outages, prevent electrical accidents, and reduce power leakage. The installation will also prevent accidents caused by high-tension power lines and falling poles during the rainy season. It will also curb electricity theft and illegal connections.

To install the underground cables, a six-feet-deep pit is dug, and one foot of sand is filled in it. Strong and quality underground cables are installed, and then one foot of sand is placed on top of a brick and covered with soil. A warning sign is installed about the cable passing in the distance after every 500m. The underground installation of HT line wire will prevent short circuits of LT wires and reduce the failure rate of distribution transformers due to unauthorised power connections. BESCOM officials stated that the remaining work would be completed in a few days, said the official.

From voltage fluctuations, power outages to electrical problems, the cable network will solve many issues

Digital meters, by 2024

BESCOM has installed 13,64,902 digital meters out of the targeted 17,90,882 as part of their ongoing efforts to upgrade their power grid. While officials have claimed that the installation is progressing at a brisk pace, 90,752 meters are yet to be installed in the East zone, 45,668 in the West, 1,25,571 in the North, and 1,62,989 in the South division.

> **"Last financial year, the work progressed briskly, and it has now reached the stage of completion**
> – a BESCOM official

The implementation of digital meters is expected to plug power leakage and overcharging, providing more accurate readings of electricity usage. The installation of digital meters is being carried out in four divisions in Bengaluru city and is likely to be completed by January 2024.

According to a senior BESCOM official, the implementation of digital meters has eliminated errors in electricity charges and is even taking into account small amounts of electricity used by customers, up to a minimum of one megawatt.

This has led to a visible difference in electricity bills, with some customers experiencing a difference of Rs 100 to 200 that were previously unaccounted for in the older meters. The digital meters will provide customers with information about how much electricity they have used and how much they have been charged for up to two years, including even the small amount of electricity consumed during switching.

The implementation of digital meters has cost BESCOM Rs 139 crore and has been contracted out to two private companies. The cost of a single-phase digital meter is Rs. 934, while a three-phase meter costs Rs. 2312. The cost of installation will be borne by BESCOM.

Customers who find the digital meters to be faulty can contact the concerned Assistant Executive Engineer, and if any money is demanded during meter installation, a complaint can be filed immediately, and BESCOM will take action against the contractor concerned if any mistake is found, said another official.

‘No less then bonded labourers’

Suicide of garment factory worker puts spotlight on stifling circumstances young garment workers far from home are put through at workplace

Rachana Ramesh
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A 20-year-old woman migrant garment worker hailing from Bihar, recently died by suicide at a factory-provided hostel in Chokkasandra, Peenya Industrial Area. The worker allegedly took the extreme step after the factory management denied to permit leaves, which the worker had requested in order to visit her hometown. This incident has brought into clear focus the issues of garment workers and their demands.

Saroja, General Secretary of Garment Labour Union (GLU), a women-led trade union engaged in protecting rights of garment workers, said that the victim had moved to the city six months ago after receiving training in Patna and lived in a hostel run by a trust in collaboration with the factory authorities. “Migrant women come to the city with big hopes but only once they move do they realise that leaves are not provided and the work pressure is immense, among other harassments that take place within the industry,” Saroja said. She added that in the factory concerned, over 50-60% of women are migrant workers, coming from states like Uttar Pradesh, Odisha, Jharkhand and other states.

Saroja noted that on the night before the incident, the security guard of the hostel had noticed that the woman had attempted suicide by trying to jump from the building thrice and he had stopped her. After his shift, the security guard informed the hostel warden regarding the matter. However, the next morning, when the victim came back to her room without attending work, the warden did not pay any heed. “The hostel authorities do not treat these workers with respect. If they had an ounce of concern for their safety and well-being, such an incident would not have happened,” she said.

She further said that the police initially refused to register an FIR based on a complaint made by the union and was reluctant even when the family of the victim raised the matter. After consistent demands by workers and the family, a complaint has now been registered with the Peenya police station and investigation is underway.

BM had reported on April 24 how night shift work for women factory workers might turn out to be a bane for them

Prathiba R of the Garment and Textile Workers’ Union (GATWU) said that after six months of training at government centres in their respective states, employers move women to hostels near their industries and put them to work. “They are no less than bonded labourers. The hostel will have its own arbitrary rules which do not allow a social life for these workers. Since they are very close to the workplaces, the workers are also often made to work more hours,” she explained, noting that these women are usually between the age group of 20-22 years and do not know the local language, making them more vulnerable. “Before the covid pandemic, the percentage of migrant women garment workers stood at 5-10%, however, it has now risen to 20-30%,” she added. While only a few choose to stay back as migrant workers in the garment industry, many go back to their hometowns and figure out alternative livelihoods. A 2018 study found that over 40% of the female workforce drops out within a span of six months of joining.

> “Since they are very close to the workplaces, the workers are also often made to work more hours
>
> –Prathiba R, GATWU

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Loo, at last

Locals say while the public restroom facility at Munnekolala is a welcome change, its twin lake, Chinnappanahalli Lake is also facing the same issue

This follows BM's report on how lack of the same was troubling walkers

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Residents living in the vicinity of Munnekolala Lake near Brookfield have found a reason to rejoice. The public toilet facility inside the lake area that was kept under lock and key for nearly two years has now been opened by the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP).

Bangalore Mirror
Absence of a public toilet in the vicinity of Munnekolala Lake is inconveniencing walkers and citizens, especially the elderly
NEVER LET ME GO
Facility built 2 years ago under lock and key

BM's report on April 21, 2023 spoke about the lack of toilet facilities troubling walkers

This is after Bangalore Mirror, on April 21, reported about the absence of a public toilet in the vicinity of the lake and how it was an inconvenience to walkers and citizens, especially the elderly.

"The toilet was opened on Monday for public use. Since it is a new facility that was never put to use, it is in good condition. However, regular monitoring will be required to ensure it is clean. For now, there are two caretakers for Munnekolala Lake who will be responsible for the upkeep of the toilet as well," said Indira Belde, founder of The People's Corp and a resident of the area who flagged the issue of lack of toilet facilities.

While hundreds of people, the majority of them elderly, use the lake pathway for their morning and evening walks, the toilet was kept locked for the longest time.

> **"The toilet was opened on Monday for public use. Since it is a new facility that was never put to use, it is in good condition**
> – Indira Belde, The People's Corp

BANGALORE MIRROR IMPACT

Locals had raised the issue citing inconvenience caused to senior citizens and those with medical conditions.

Locals say while the public restroom facility at Munnekolala is a welcome change, its twin lake, Chinnappanahalli Lake is also facing the same issue for more than a decade now. They say the washroom facility is in bad shape and has not been used since 2007.

Doors are broken, the water line is disconnected, and the overhead tank is missing.

"While the lake was rejuvenated in 2007 and the toilet facility was created during that time, it was never opened to the public. People using the lake for their walks or other recreational activities are not even aware that the facility exists," said a regular walker at Chinnappanahalli.

Residents say they have now highlighted the issue and BBMP officials concerned have decided to act upon it.

"The toilet needs a total revamp. We spoke to BBMP officials and while they have cleaned it, all the accessories have to be installed along with the overhead tank and water pipelines.

Currently, the civic body is carrying out fencing work.

We have been told that the doors of the toilet will be fixed soon, and the overhead tank will be restored. We are waiting for it to be operational soon," said Belade.

Garbage menace: this approach won't do

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

prevent the dumping of waste along this road. I want the BBMP to fix this problem for good," said HK Gowdaiah. Meanwhile, BBMP solid waste management assistant executive engineer Poornima said she would take measures to clean the black spots on the road in question. "Dumping of garbage is happening at night. There are no street lights on this road. BBMP marshals have penalised a few people for dumping waste on the road. We are removing garbage twice a week but some irresponsible people continue dumping garbage at night," said Poornima.

The other black spot is near the flyover at Domlur Layout. The residents want the BBMP to clear garbage on a daily basis here.

"There is no control on dumping of garbage at vacant places in Domlur Layout. With most of the BBMP staff on election duty, no one is supervising the segregation of waste," said Shivakumar V, a resident of Domlur.

Odette Katrak, co-founder of Beautiful Bharat, said Bengaluru is such a beautiful city: "It is easily within our reach to prevent this kind of waste pile-up causing adour, disease spread, visual distress, traffic hazards, dents to city image and so on with a partnership approach. Sadly, many of these sights are not one-off instances, but recurring."

"After eight years of active waste volunteering, it's frustrating to see dilution both in segregation and plastic ban enforcement. Reason for such mess is unsegregated waste handed in single plastic bags (ironically also banned). Daily pick up from households is regular; yet this pile grows with non-clearance and more dumping, not just by local residents but many on bikes use it as a convenient drop off," she said.

She said the solutions for this problem are simple — the collection of waste must be on a daily basis, waste generators (be it residents of commercials) must hand over segregated waste with zero banned plastic; the BBMP must penalise the defaulters. "It is possible to fix this permanently within a month with the right measures and a partnership approach," Katrak told BM.

Dumping of garbage is taking place at night

When informed, BBMP assistant executive engineer (solid waste management) Appuraj said people from other areas are dumping garbage near the Domlur flyover. "The two bins installed near the flyover are the main reason for people dumping garbage. I have written to the BBMP head office requesting the authorities to remove these bins. I will depute workers to remove garbage."

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Move the debris
Sarakki

Debris at the corner of 3rd Main Sarakki and 12th A cross is causing problems for the residents.

Unhygienic
Jayanagar

Residents in 9th Main, 5th Block, Jayanagar want BBMP to shift the garbage being kept at the corner of the footpath.

Restore normalcy
Ullal

Residents in Ullal Upanagara Road have been facing problems due to incomplete construction work for the past 45 days. Due to this, BMTC buses have stopped coming towards the area.

Couple arrested for stealing bikes

The Malleswaram police have arrested a couple who were stealing bikes. This comes amid a rise in bike thefts in the city.

According to the police, the accused and his girlfriend were stealing bikes for fun and selling them at low prices. "They were working as a team. One time the boy would steal a bike and then the next time his girlfriend would do it. The money they used to get after selling the stolen bike, they used to buy drugs like MDMA and marijuana from that," said the police.

CRIME FILES

-BMB

Mob attack

A video has surfaced online which shows a mob allegedly attacking and chasing away a police van in Shivajinagar.

According to the sources, the incident took place on April 24 at 1 am at Russel market.

"The police were taking arounds at night, which they usually do. However, the day before yesterday, many people gathered around the police van and started chasing it away and attacking the policemen," claimed the source.

A senior official from Shivajinagar, he claimed that no such incident had taken place in his jurisdiction. "We will inquire into the matter," said the police.

-BMB

Our wetlands, worth billions!

Study by IISc researchers puts spotlight on need to protect ecosystem

A fisherman casts his net at Madhure Kere lake on city's outskirts

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The wetlands have been evaluated by the scientists based on provisioning, regulating, and cultural services

Researchers from the Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bengaluru have evaluated that the wetlands of Karnataka are worth Rs 284.52 billion annually, based on the various ecosystem services they provide.

Overall, the wetland ecosystem of the state is worth Rs 7,320.6 billion based on the ecological, socio-cultural, and environmental support it provides. The study on ecosystem service on wetlands in Karnataka has also evaluated Rachenahalli and Varthur lakes. As per the analysis, while the value of total ecosystem services provided by Varthur is Rs 55.5 lakh per hectare per day, in the case of Rachenahalli, it is Rs 10,435 hectare per day.

The wetlands have been evaluated based on provisioning, regulating, and cultural services. While the provisioning services considered include fish and other aquatic plants and animals (microalgae and macrophytes), regulating services include the benefits obtained from various ecosystem processes, for instance, water regulation, climate regulation, water purification, erosion regulation, and flood control. Cultural services include the nonmaterial benefits from ecosystems through spiritual, recreation, aesthetic experiences, and ecotourism.

According to the study, while the provisioning and regulating services provided by wetlands in the state amount to Rs 49.7 billion and Rs 196.89 billion per year, respectively, the cultural services provided by wetlands amount to Rs 37.93 billion per year.

Researchers say it is crucial to quantify the wetlands' socio-cultural, ecological, and economic value for appropriate management strategies by policymakers.

It also analyses ecosystem services provided by wetlands, district-wise in Karnataka, and the results reveal that the Tumakuru district with the larger area of wetlands, contributes significantly (Rs 47,142 million per year) through ecosystem services, followed by Kolar, Chitradurga, Hassan, Chikkaballapura, Mandya, and Shivamogga.

Experts say that conserving wetland ecosystems should include multipronged approaches such as regular monitoring of water quality, recording of aquatic species, regular removal of accumulated silt, maintaining riparian vegetation, preventing untreated wastewater inflow, etc.

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	Coimbatore	Zone by the Park Coimbatore	33/3, 39, Avinashi Road, Lakshmi Mills, Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu. Ph. 0422-4005000
07-05-2023 (Sunday) 9:30 AM to 5:30 PM	Chennai	Hotel Ramada	Gandhi Irwin Road, Ansari Estate, Egmore. Ph. 044-46104777
	Trichy	Hotel Rathna Residency	Opp to KPN Travels No.4, Trichy-Dindigul Road, Near central bus stand, Tiruchirappalli, Tamil Nadu. Ph. 0431-2405500
14.05.2023 (Sunday) 9:30 AM to 5:30 PM	Hyderabad	Best Western Ashoka Hotel	Best Western Ashoka Progressive Hotels Pvt. Ltd., 6-1-70, Lakdi ka pul, Hyderabad. Cell: +91 7306000222

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	Pharma Division		
1	Business Development Executive - III	13	Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Karnataka & AP
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Security check and preparations for Yogi Adityanath's visit to Karnataka; Basic facilities will be available in all polling stations

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POLL VAULT

The Election Commission has announced that 100 per cent Photo Electoral Rolls will be used in the upcoming General Election. Electors who have been provided with Electors Photo Identity Cards (EPIC) will be identified through EPIC, which currently has 100 per cent coverage in Karnataka. EPICs have been distributed to all eligible electors, totalling 37,94,517 EPICs till April 25.

Addressing a press conference, Chief Electoral Officer Manoj Kumar Meena said that to facilitate the voters in knowing their enrolled polling station and serial number, the Commission has directed the distribution of official voter slips at least 10 days before the date of poll to all enrolled voters by the District Election Officer. "The size, design, and format of the voter slip have been improved to enhance its utility and effectiveness in voter identification and awareness. The Commission has emphasised the systematic, efficient, and timely distribution of photo voter slips through the Booth Level Officers (BLOs), who are under strict instructions to hand over the voter slip to the elector concerned only and not to any other person. The residual undistributed Voter Slips will be returned to the concerned Electoral Registration Officer. Moreover, to inform the voters about the date and time of polls, contact details of the BLOs, important websites, helpline numbers, and documents required for identification at the polling station, a Voter Guide will be handed over to every household ahead of the elections. The Voter Guide will be distributed along with the Voter Slips by the BLOs," he said.

The Commission has provided all the assured minimum facilities to all polling stations, such as ramps and drinking water. Waiting rooms with seating arrangements and fans, if not shamianas, have been provided along with safe drinking water. Clean toilets are available in addition to the AMF, and the polling booths will be kept clean to provide a happy experience for voters during voting, Meena said, adding that to manage the queues, adjacent rooms of the polling stations will be used as waiting rooms for voters. Some districts are issuing tokens for voters in the waiting room, which will reduce their time of standing in the queue. A Queue Management App (Chunavana App) has also been developed to know the queue status at the polling stations.

"For Service Voters, postal ballots were prepared and sent electronically to all the 47,488 service voters working in 561 record/unit offices across the country and world. All the record/unit officers were briefed about the procedures while casting postal ballots by the service voters, and these postal ballots must reach Returning Officers on or before 8 am on the day of counting," he said.

Pre-poll wrap: What is Karnataka up to?

"I take criticism from BSY as blessing"

Congress leader Jagadish Shettar, who is a candidate from Karnataka's Hubballi-Dharwad-Central constituency, on Wednesday said he takes criticism from BS Yediyurappa as his blessing in this election, adding that the wishes of the BJP's leader would convert into success for him.

"Amit Shah came here and attacked me. Many from BJP have joined Congress recently but they are targeting me only. I take criticism from BS Yediyurappa as his blessing in this election...His wish for me (to lose) will convert into success for me," said Shettar.

BJP leader BS Yediyurappa's said that Jagadish, who joined Congress recently, "will lose elections".

Challenging Shettar to win on a Congress ticket in the region, Yediyurappa said at a meeting in Huballi, "Jagadish Shettar has backstabbed the BJP and the members of the party. With all his selfishness, he left the party and joined the Congress. I can write with my blood that he will lose this election on a Congress ticket." -ANI

Time of struggle: Priyanka

Trying to strike an emotional chord with people of Chikkamagaluru district by recalling the association with people of the region, Congress General Secretary Priyanka Gandhi Vadra on Wednesday said it was now a time of struggle for the family, similar to what her grandmother and former Prime Minister Indira Gandhi was going through when she came before them nearly 45 years ago.

Pointing to her brother and Congress leader Rahul Gandhi being disqualified from Parliament in what she described a "false case similar to what had happened to Indira Gandhi", she expressed confidence about emerging victorious with the blessings of God and the people as they were fighting for truth.

"I'm coming after offering prayers to Sharada devi," Gandhi said after visiting the temple at Sringeri.

"Today too, it is a time of struggle for my family. In 1978, when Indiraji came here on this ground, it was a time of struggle for her. On that day too, it was raining like this," she added. -PTI

Huballi families want 'innocent' relatives freed

They 'will not vote in the polls unless their kin are freed'

A year after 89 persons were arrested for allegedly indulging in violence at Karnataka's Huballi, families of many of them claim their relatives are 'innocent,' insist they are unable to go through the bail procedures since they are illiterate and that they would boycott the May 10 assembly polls if the accused "who did nothing wrong" are not released.

In April last year, 89 people were arrested after a mob went on the rampage over a social media post that saw a police station and a Hanuman temple coming under attack. The violence was allegedly triggered following a social media post of a digitally altered image of a saffron flag flying over a mosque.

Some of the families of those who are still in jail claim their children and relatives were 'innocent' and had "no role to play in the violence".

"Most of them who were arrested were picked up by the police randomly. We are illiterate. We do not know how to apply for bail or approach the court to get our children released," some of the local residents said.

Mumtaz from Nava Anand Nagar in Huballi, whose son was among the arrested and currently lodged in Kalaburagi jail, said she couldn't meet him in the last one year.

Claiming her son was not guilty, Mumtaz said she will not cast her vote until her ward is released from prison.

"My son used to drive an autorickshaw in Huballi. The police arrested and took him to Kalaburagi jail and since then, I haven't heard his voice. It has been more than a year now. My son was innocent. I will not cast my vote until my son is released from jail," Mumtaz told PTI.

The incident in Huballi was the fallout of the alleged social media post, which others objected to and lodged a police complaint. Subsequently, the person who made the post was arrested after a case was registered.

According to the family members of the accused, those who are lodged in the jail had written a letter to their community leaders, urging them to convey their message to the Centre and release them at the earliest.

"Three of my sons got arrested and one of them has been in jail for the last 11 months. My children were not guilty in this incident. I will not cast my vote until my son is freed," Shamshad from Nava Anand Nagar said.

She added around 50 people were arrested from Nava Anand Nagar area after the violence.

Speaking about the case, Karnataka ADGP Alok Kumar said granting bail depends on the seriousness of the case and quality of evidence, among others.

"Several of the arrested were charged under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA). Granting bail to the accused depends on the seriousness of the case, extent of law and quality of evidence, whether it is on video or pictures," Alok Kumar told PTI.

Mehboobi from Nava Anand Nagar, a widow and the sole earner of the family, claimed her son was not guilty.

"My son was not involved in the violence, yet he was arrested. My husband passed away and I have to take care of the family all by myself," Mehboobi said.

Earlier, Karnataka Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai had dismissed the allegations that innocent people were being held in connection with the Huballi violence and said arrests were made based on evidence.

"No innocent person has been arrested. Based on evidence, people have been arrested," he had said.

Batul from Nava Anand Nagar, whose husband was arrested last year in connection with the violence, also claims he was innocent. -PTI

In fight against malaria, Karnataka sets example

K'taka reports decline in malaria cases in comparison to previous years; experts suggest people returning from international trips must take precautions

| Sridhar.Vivan
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State reported 11 cases in 2023, 289 in 2022, and 913 in 2021

Karnataka has reported a significant decline in malaria cases, with only 11 cases reported to date this year. According to the statistics of the last six years, the infection rate is seeing a downward trend. In 2018, 5,289 cases were reported and this declined to 3,499 in 2019, 1,701 in 2020, 913 in 2021, and 289 in 2022. During the same time frame, two deaths were reported in 2021 and one in 2020.

A senior health official said, "In Karnataka, malaria morbidity has decreased considerably and is progressing towards elimination due to the implementation of concerted intervention measures, such as early case detection, qualitative diagnosis, complete and directly observed treatment, vector control through the use of insecticides and biological methods, promotion of personal protection tools, capacity building of the human resource at work, and spreading awareness in the community."

The decrease in malaria cases in Karnataka is contrary to cases growing elsewhere.

Dr Dave Knight, medical doctor and malaria specialist at International SOS said that malaria cases and deaths have actually risen during the pandemic, and globally they seem to have lost some traction in controlling malaria.

"For the private sector, malaria remains a key health risk when operating in the tropics, especially in Africa and parts of Asia and South America. It is predicted with climate change that this risk could grow. Furthermore, there are no ground-shifting technology solutions imminent over the next few years that will allow significant mitigation of this risk in a company workforce. We still rely on age-old interventions," he said.

On a positive note, the new RTS, S vaccine is being rolled out in high-transmission areas in Africa for infants and young children. It is not suitable for adults yet provides moderate but important protection to very young children over the first few years of life. The private sector should support this initiative in communities within which they operate where appropriate, he added.

"In Karnataka, malaria morbidity has decreased considerably
–a senior health official

"With the ongoing recovery of international business travel, there is a greater need to ensure protection against malaria for all those potentially exposed. People returning from their travels should be aware of malaria as a potential diagnosis," he explained.

Furthermore, Dr Vikram Vora, medical director at International SOS, said, "Now with endemic geographies like northeast, east and central India undergoing rapid development, it is important that organisations review the malaria risk to their employees and protect them through structured programmes. Increasing awareness, medical oversight and reviews, pre-travel advisories, and ensuring access to diagnostic and treatment modalities will form the backbone of organisational preparedness against malaria."

World Malaria Day is observed on April 25 each year to promote global efforts to control malaria and celebrate the reduced malaria burden. Since 2000, the world has made historic progress against malaria, saving millions of lives. India represents 3 per cent of the global malaria burden, and has shown a significant reduction in malaria cases over the past decade.

'Avoid meetings during peak hours'

With summer temperature increasing across the state, the Health and Family Welfare Department issued a heat advisory on Wednesday.

"In view of the increasing summer heat in the state, the department has issued suggestions to deal with health conditions caused by excessive heat. It is advised not to conduct any outdoor meetings during peak sun hours, especially from 11 am to 4 pm. However, if it is necessary to conduct meetings/events during these hours, the following precautions should be taken like arranging necessary awnings/pendals to protect participants from the sun, ensuring good ventilation, and providing drinking water for the audience for rehydration," said the circular.

The Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) and district administrations have been instructed to ensure that the measures are observed to protect public health, it added.

Heavy rainfall predicted

Meanwhile, the India Meteorology Department (IMD) said that south interior Karnataka is expected to experience heavy rainfall and thunderstorms in the coming days. The IMD has issued a warning for the region, predicting thunderstorms with lightning and gusty wind speeds of 30-40 kmph at isolated places over several districts.

On the first day, thunderstorms, which are valid until April 2023, are expected to occur at isolated places over Ballari, Bengaluru Rural, Bengaluru Urban, Chamarajanagar, Chikkamangaluru, Chitradurga, Davengere, Hassan, Kodagu, Mandya, Mysuru, Ramanagara, Shivamogga, Tumakuru, and Vijayanagara districts of south interior Karnataka. The thunderstorm warning will continue on the second day, valid until April 28, affecting Ballari, Chamarajanagar, Chikkamangaluru, Chitradurga, Davengere, Hassan, Kodagu, Mandya, Mysuru, Shivamogga, Tumakuru, and Vijayanagara districts.

The April 29th warning, predicts thunderstorms with lightning and gusty wind speeds of 30-40 kmph at isolated places over all the districts of south interior Karnataka.

On April 30, heavy rainfall ranging from 64.5 mm to 115.5 mm is likely to occur at isolated places over Chikkamangaluru, Chitradurga, Davanagere, Mysuru, Shivamogga, and Tumakuru districts. Additionally, thunderstorms with lightning and gusty wind speeds of 30-40 kmph are expected to occur at isolated places over all the districts of south interior Karnataka.

South Interior K'taka is expected to experience heavy rainfall in coming days

Finally, on May 1, heavy rainfall ranging from 64.5 mm to 115.5 mm is expected to occur at isolated places over Bengaluru Rural, Bengaluru Urban, Chikkabalapura, Chikkamangaluru, Chitradurga Hassan, Kolar, Mandya, and Tumakuru districts.

The public is advised to stay indoors and avoid unnecessary travel during the warning period. Farmers are advised to take appropriate precautions to avoid damage to crops, said the weather report. —BMB

State's stance: Quota unconstitutional

Karnataka govt told the Supreme Court that the decision taken by it was conscious

The Karnataka government told the Supreme Court that it took a conscious decision not to continue with the reservation for the Muslim community on the sole basis of religion since it is unconstitutional and contrary to the mandate of Article 14 to 16 of the Constitution.

The state government said that two orders dated March 27, 4 per cent reservation in favour of Muslims was deleted and the members of the community were allowed to claim benefit of reservation under EWS scheme which is at 10 per cent (In EWS Scheme there are other communities namely, Brahmins, Arya Vysyas, etc.)

The government said it is pertinent to note that the groups within the Muslim community who were found to be backward and found mention in Group I of the 2002 reservation order continue to enjoy the benefits of reservation.

In the counter affidavit, it said: "It is humbly submitted that reservation solely on the basis of religion is also contrary to the principles of social justice. The concept of social justice aims to protect those who are deprived and discriminated against within the society.

"Including within the said ambit an entire religion would be an antithesis to the concept of social justice and the ethos of the Constitution. It is humbly submitted that therefore reservation cannot be extended to any community on the sole basis of religion."

The state submitted that the provision of reservation on the basis of religion would also be contrary to the concept of secularism.

The government said merely because reservations have been provided in the past on the basis of religion, the same is no ground for continuing the same for perpetuity, more so when the same is on the basis of an unconstitutional principle.

"The petitioners herein have sought to give a colour to the exercise in question which is completely baseless. The timing of the decision, etc, are immaterial without the petitioners clearly demonstrating that the reservation on the basis of religion is constitutional," it said. –IANS

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Kolar

Gujarat HC judge recuses from hearing Rahul Gandhi's plea

#Ahmedabad

Gujarat High Court judge Justice Gita Gopi recused herself on Wednesday from hearing a plea filed by Congress leader Rahul Gandhi. The appeal sought a stay on his conviction by a magistrate court in a criminal defamation case against him.

Gandhi's appeal was mentioned before single judge Justice Gopi, who responded with "not before me" and advised the advocate to approach the acting Chief Justice of the High Court, who can assign another bench for hearing the appeal.

Earlier, a sessions court in Surat had dismissed Gandhi's plea seeking suspension of his conviction by the magistrate court on April 20. In a detailed order, the sessions court held that Gandhi's disqualification would not amount to an irreversible loss to him and refused to grant interim relief.

The case is in connection with a statement Gandhi made during a political campaign in 2019 in Kolar, Karnataka. **IANS**

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I Madhurima Ashokmoy Gupta W/O, Chanchal Sen R/o F8, Rgm Athish Pride Apartment,bhagat Singh Road, Lake View Garden, K Channasandra, Post Office - horamavu, Bangalore - 560043 have changed my name to Madhurima Gupta Sen

I, MOHAMMED SUHAIB A. S, Residing at No 15, 23rd Main, Shamanna Road, J.P. Nagar 5th Phase, Bangalore South, Bangalore-560078. Have changed My name to MOHAMMED SUHAIB vide affidavit dated 24/04/2023 before Notary Aravind Patil G.G Bangalore

I, KATTIGENAHALLI NARAHARI MANJULA W/o NARAHARI K residing at 28 Sharanya 8th main Bandappa Garden Gokul Extn Bangalore 560054, have changed my to Manjula N R for all future purposes

I Naheeda Sayeed, W/O Sayeed Sageer Ahmed R/o at 2180, Ramamandira Road, Chamalapura Street Nanjangud, Mysore Dist, Karnataka-571301 have changed my name to Naheeda Sayeed Ahmed

I Sushil Kumar S/O, Girish Appareddy R/o No 243/2, West Of Chord Road, Opp To Power House Shivanagar Rajajinagar Bangalore - 560010 have changed my name to Sushill G Kumar for all purposes.

I Smita Kulkarni D/o Subhash Kulkarni R/o Survey No. 21/2, Flat No-106, Ds Max Samruddhi Apt, 2nd Stage, 7th A, Vishwaneedam Post, B'lore-91 have changed my name to Shivani Aminagad for all purposes.

I, Srinivasan Palacode Vetrayan R/o # 17/59, Mariyamman Kovil Street, Palacode, Dharmapuri district, Tamil Nadu-636 808, have changed my name to Srinivasan Vetrayan

I Manjula Prakasha R/o #189, 1st Main ,3rd block, vishvesh waraiah layout, Ullal upanagar B'lore 560056 have changed my name to Manjula.B.N vide affidavit dt 26.04.2023 sworn bef -ore Notary S.R Thulasikrishna

I, Noor Fathima Pasha R/o #45 3rd Cross Kanakanagar R T Nagar P.O B'luru-560032 have changed my name to Noor Fathima. Vide Affidavit dt 25/04/2023 before Notary Harisha G B'luru.

I Prashanth Ravishankar Mudaliar S/O, Ravishankar R/o 702, Gk Meadows, Shikaripalya Main Road, Electronic City, Bengaluru, 560100 have changed my name to Prashanth Ravishankar

I, Chithra, D/o Mr. Asaithambi, R/o 913/A, 2nd Floor, 2nd Main,10th Cross, Divanarapalaya, Mathikere, Bangalore, Karnataka-560054, have changed my name to Chithra Asaithambi

I, Sanjay Kumar Talwar S/O Sardari Lal R/O Avalahalli, Bangalore have changed my name from Sanjay Kumar to Sanjay Kumar Talwar for all future purposes.

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JOIN THE DOTS

All you need to know about strawberry legs and tips on how to get rid of the nagging bumps

Strawberry legs is a common skin condition characterized by the appearance of small black dots on the skin's surface. To treat it, one can exfoliate regularly, moisturise daily, shave properly, use topical treatments such as retinoids, salicylic acid, and benzoyl peroxide, and consult a dermatologist if needed.

If you've always been plagued by the thought 'How to get rid of strawberry legs?", fret no more. Follow the steps given below to get yourself smoother, healthier-looking legs.

What are strawberry legs?

Strawberry legs" is a term used to describe the appearance of dark spots or divots on the surface that resemble a strawberry.[1] This condition is also known as comedones or open comedones. The darkened pores or hair follicles occur when oil, bacteria, and dead skin cells build up in the hair follicles and cause the pores to become clogged. This can result in the formation of blackheads or whiteheads, looks like the dotted strawberry textures.

Strawberry legs can occur in people of all ages and skin types, but it is more common in people who shave their legs or have dry skin. Regular exfoliation, moisturizing, and avoiding tight clothing can help reduce the appearance of strawberry legs.

Causes of strawberry legs

The cause of strawberry legs is not fully understood, but it is thought to be related to clogged hair follicles. Here are some possible causes of strawberry legs:

Shaving
Strawberry legs are a common side effect of waxing or shaving that can cause irritation and inflammation, which can lead to clogged hair follicles.

Dry Skin
Dry skin can cause the hair follicles to become clogged with dead skin cells and other debris.

Hormonal Changes
Hormonal changes, such as those that occur during puberty or pregnancy, can cause an increase in sebum production, which can contribute to clogged pores.

Genetics
Some people may be more prone to developing strawberry legs due to genetics.

Bacterial Infection
Bacterial infections can lead to the formation of blackheads or whiteheads, which can contribute to the appearance of strawberry legs, and folliculitis disease brought on by irritated hair follicles.

Keratosis Pilaris
This disorder arises from excessive keratin production in the skin, which can obstruct hair follicles and result in bumps.

Here are some tips that can help reduce the appearance of strawberry legs:

Exfoliate Regularly
Regular exfoliation can help remove dead skin cells that can clog hair follicles. Use a gentle exfoliating scrub or a body brush to exfoliate your legs two to three times a week. Apply this combination of scrubs to get beneficial results: Oatmeal and Cream Scrub; Cucumber, Rose Water Scrub; Sugar and Aloe Vera Scrub.

Moisturise
Moisturising your legs can help keep the skin hydrated and prevent dryness, which can contribute to the appearance of strawberry legs. Choose a moisturiser that is non-comedogenic and apply it after showering or bathing. Apply ice to the legs to decrease swelling and spots.

Epilator
For people who are prone to strawberry legs, an epilator is a suitable option. It is an electrical gadget that rotates little tweezers to pull hair out of the root.

Salicylic Acid Body Wash
Salicylic acid is a type of beta-hydroxy acid that can help exfoliate the skin and unclog hair follicles. Use a salicylic acid body wash once or twice a week to help reduce the appearance of strawberry legs.

Avoid Tight Clothing
Tight clothing can trap sweat and bacteria against the skin, which can contribute to the development of strawberry legs. Wear loose-fitting clothing and avoid wearing leggings or tight jeans for extended periods of time.

Electrolysis
To target the inflamed hair follicles and prevent the hair from developing, use electrolysis. Ingrown hairs won't grow back thanks to this technique, which can lessen the risk of strawberry legs.

Dry Brushing
Before taking a bath or shower, scrape the clogged-up skin with a dry brush or rough towel in circular motions. Then, gently wash the region with a light soap or only warm water.

Use Hair Removal Methods Carefully
If you shave your legs, use a clean and sharp razor and shave in the direction of hair growth to avoid irritating the skin. If you use other hair removal methods, such as waxing or sugaring, be sure to follow the instructions carefully.

Professional Treatments
If you have severe strawberry legs or if at-home treatments are not effective, you may want to consider professional treatments such as laser hair removal or chemical peels. These treatments can help reduce the appearance of strawberry legs by removing dead skin cells and unclogging hair follicles.

Remember, it may take time and consistency to see results. Be patient and keep up with a regular skincare routine to help reduce the appearance of strawberry legs.

—Mahek Aggarwal, for Femina

How Do You Naturally Clear Strawberry Legs?

There are several natural remedies that may help to clear up strawberry legs. These include:

- **Exfoliating with a gentle scrub made from natural ingredients like sugar or coffee grounds to help remove dead skin cells and unclog pores.**
- **Applying a natural moisturizer like coconut oil or aloe vera to help hydrate and soothe the skin.**
- **Using a skin-lightening ingredient like lemon juice or turmeric to help reduce the appearance of darkened pores or hair follicles.**
- **Applying a mixture of honey and cinnamon to help reduce inflammation and prevent infection.**
- **Drinking plenty of water and eating a balanced diet rich in antioxidants and vitamins to help promote healthy skin from the inside out.**
- **It's important to note that while natural remedies may be helpful in reducing the appearance of strawberry legs, they may not be as effective as professional treatments or medical interventions. If you have concerns about the appearance of your legs, it's always a good idea to consult with a dermatologist for personalized advice and treatment recommendations.**

All problems solved

Dear Coleen

I'm a 65-year-old woman and soon to be a pensioner.
I have mobility issues and I'm very limited in terms of the things I can do, so I'm also fairly housebound.
My problem is, my seven children, who are all adults and married with their own kids, think I'm still able to look after my 11 grandchildren (not all at once, of course).
My grandchildren range in age from babies to teenagers and I find it so hard to look after them. It's a task just trying to take care of myself.
I had no one to help me when I was a young widow, but somehow I coped and raised my family. However, my children still keep expecting certain things of me or they move in and out of my home, often leaving it turned upside down.
I don't know how to tell them I'd just like to enjoy what's left of my life without all this stress.

COLEEN SAYS

I think I might say exactly what you've just said to me. Tell them you love them all, but you're tired and struggling to do things for yourself, and don't have the energy any more to look after children. Say you love seeing your grandkids, but can't be a carer any more. Just because you're related, doesn't make it a given that you're an unpaid carer.

And if you find it hard to say it, write them a letter or an email.

And explain that it's not just the looking after, it's the clearing up afterwards.

Honestly, most people find it hard to say no, especially to loved ones, but you have to when your health and wellbeing are at stake. If you don't, they'll carry on taking advantage of the situation.

So, be brave and stand up for yourself and, trust me, they'll get over it.

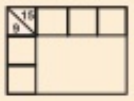
—Coleen Nolan, Daily Mirror

SOLVE IT IN A MINUTE

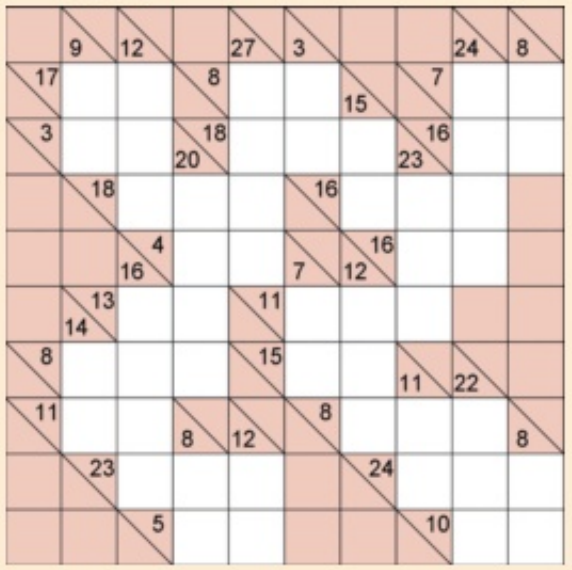
A map is drawn to scale of 2 cm to 100 km. The distance between two towns on the map is 2.5 cm. What is their actual distance?

Kakuro

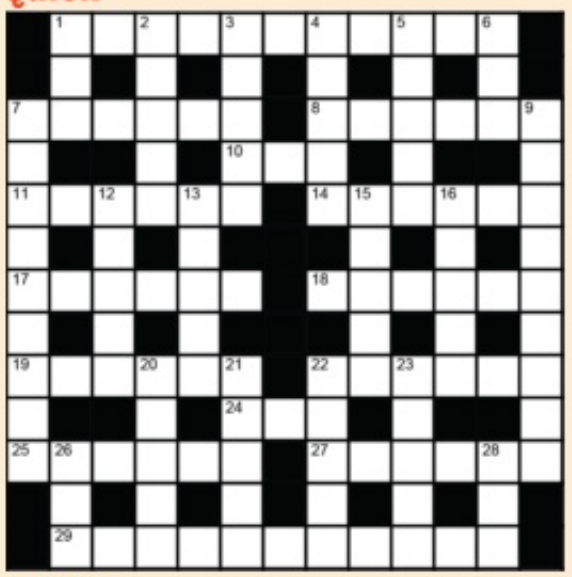
The numbers in the grey squares refer to the sums of the digits that you must fill into the empty spaces directly below or to the right of the grey square containing the number. For instance, in the given example, the 3 boxes horizontally next to 15 must contain 3 digits that add up to 15, whereas for 9, it is the 2 boxes placed vertically under it that must add up to 9. No zeros are used here, only the digits 1 through 9.



Note: A digit cannot appear more than once in any particular digit combination. For instance, in the example, we cannot have the combination of 4+7+4 for 15.



Quick



ACROSS

1 Comradeship (11)
7 Brazen-faced (6)
8 Uses one's mind (6)
10 Mythical monster (3)
11 Liquid medicament (6)
14 Scottish dish (6)
17 Largest of Japan's four main islands (6)
18 Important city in Pakistan (6)
19 Church officials (6)
22 Brought about (6)
24 Everybody (3)
25 Required (6)
27 Hankered for (6)
29 Exceeded numerically (11)

DOWN

1 Mongrel (3)
2 PSG and Argentina striker (5)
3 Artificial silk (5)
4 Trench (5)
5 Having regret (5)
6 Large deer (3)
7 Amusement park and recreation centre in Cubbon Park (3,6)
9 Deferred or shelved (9)
12 Part of a military uniform (5)
13 Remaining one (5)
15 Manila hemp plant (5)
16 Becomes larger in size (5)
20 Check, examine or inspect, like a C.A. perhaps? (5)
21 Hindu ascetic (5)
22 Go up (5)
23 Open sore (5)
26 Tokyo's former name (3)
28 Come to a bad ___ : meet with ruin or disgrace? (3)

Quoteuncode

This puzzle is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that Q equals C, it will equal C throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

Today's CLUE: E EQUALS T

EFM ZODUUMI EFM FMDQ, EFM WJRRMI EFM QIMDO.

Linemaro

I love the way you treat people

Mindchow

The deeper that sorrow carves into your being, the more joy you can contain

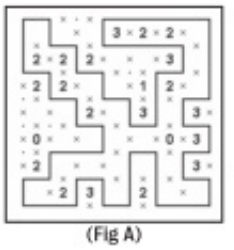
Joke of the day

As a computer, I find your faith in technology amusing

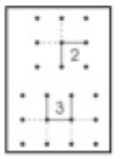
Loop

Rules

» Connect adjacent dots with vertical or horizontal lines, creating a single loop (Fig A). » Crossovers or branches are not allowed (As shown by dotted lines in Fig B). » Numbers in the puzzle indicate the number of lines that should surround it, while empty cells may be surrounded by any number of lines. » You can't draw lines around zeros. » Each puzzle has just one unique solution.



(Fig A)



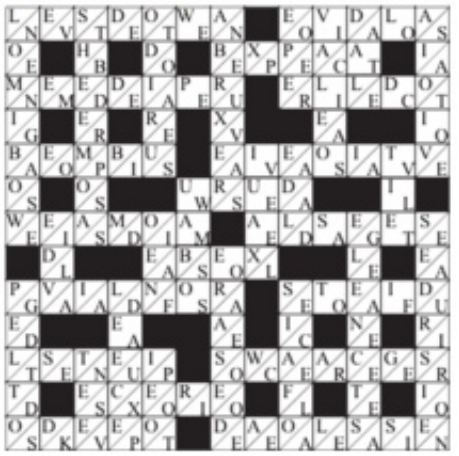
(Fig B) Not Allowed

How to begin:

Example (Fig A) – Begin with the zero next to 3. Since no lines can be drawn around zero, mark crosses around it, as shown. Now there is a cross in one space around 3. So we know the three lines of 3 can only be drawn in the remaining three spaces. Next, these lines can only be extended in one direction each. Continue, using the same logic.

Hints: Keep eliminating possibilities by marking crosses in spaces between dots where a line isn't possible, i.e., if you have already completed required lines or where a line extension may create a branch or cause a dead-end (Fig B)

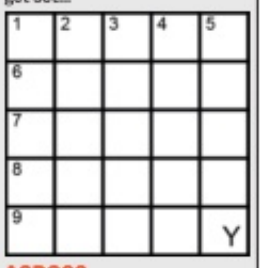
Strikeout



This crossword has no clues and the answer is there waiting for you. All you have to do is find it in each square. You have a choice of two letters, one of which you must strike out. If you choose correctly, you will be left with a grid that contains real words.

Fast five

How long do you think it will take you to unscramble the ten words shown below and fit them correctly into the grid in the order given one letter has already been entered to get you started? on your marks, get set...



ACROSS

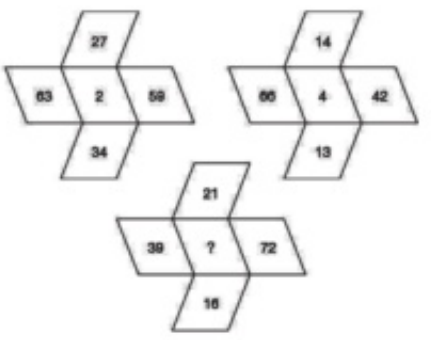
1 Casks; 6 Ulcer;
7 Barb I; 8 Ameba;
9 By Gab

DOWN

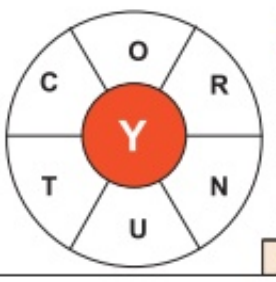
1 Crags; 2 Arab a;
3 Be cub; 4 Bake B;
5 Sly I'm

Mensapuzzle

What number should replace the question mark?



Bull's eye



How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown? Every word must contain the central letter. There should be one seven-letter word. British English Dictionary is used as a reference.

03 Average; 04 Good; 05 Outstanding

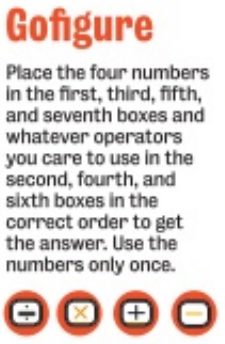
SudokuChallenge

	5		1		6		3	
		2				6		
	6						7	
	9	5	8		3	7	2	
		3		6		5		
	2	6	5		4	3	9	
	7						4	
		4				1		
	3		2		7		5	

To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from one to nine must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Gofigure

Place the four numbers in the first, third, fifth, and seventh boxes and whatever operators you care to use in the second, fourth, and sixth boxes in the correct order to get the answer. Use the numbers only once.

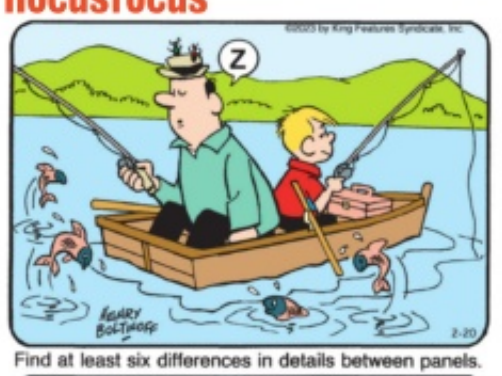


Easy = 13
6 6 8 9

Medium = 8
3 4 5 9

Hard = 10
1 5 7 2

Hocusfocus



Find at least six differences in details between panels.

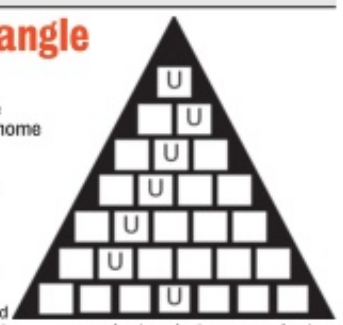
Differences: 1. Back of boat is different. 2. Fish is smaller. 3. Handle on box is larger. 4. Fishing pole is shorter. 5. Sleeve is longer. 6. Man has more hair.

Riddler

Charles will be 49 years old next year, even though just two days ago he was 46. How can this be the case?

Alpha triangle

1 Uranium symbol
2 Et Brute
3 Dirt road feature
4 Mongol movable home
5 Out of practice
6 Pledge
7 Tidal river mouth



Beginning at the top move towards the bottom seven-letter word by adding a letter at each step and rearranging. A correct and different word must be made at each step answering to the clue given.

DIFFICULT TO SOLVE? FIND THESE SOLUTIONS ON THE NEXT PAGE

COMICS

Redeye by Mel Casson

YOU'RE GOING TO SEE A BIG CHANGE IN ME STARTING TODAY, CHIEF!
NO MORE GOOFS OR DUMB MISTAKES FOR ME!
FINE, TANGLEFOOT
2-7
NOW CAN YOU PADDLE A LITTLE FASTER?

Bizarrotrip

Diamond Lil

Hart of the city

WHY DO YOU KEEP TRYING TO BUY ME THINGS? DO YOU THINK I DON'T HAVE ANY MONEY?
NO, THAT'S NOT IT AT ALL!
I JUST, UH...
WHAT?!
I JUST WANT YOU TO LIKE ME!
OOOH, WELL I ALREADY LIKE YOU
REALLY?!
REALLY?!

Crankshaft

USUALLY, WE'RE WORRIED THAT THE WEATHER WON'T BE COLD ENOUGH FOR OUR ICE CARVING FESTIVAL...
SO I GUESS IT'S TRUE THAT YOU SHOULD BE CAREFUL WHAT YOU WISH FOR!
CITY HALL
2-14
BATIUK & DAVIS

Mutts

WHAT YOUR STARS SAY TODAY

Aries Mar 21 – Apr 20
Today, you are blessed by the moon. Messy things are now under control, and your performance may be praised by your boss. You may likely get new responsibilities in terms of promotions. Money that was stuck is likely to be recovered now, which may help in savings. You may also hear some good news in terms of legal matters. Issues with your siblings are likely to be resolved now.

Taurus Apr 21 – May 20
Today, you may hear good news in terms of a job.
You may plan for higher studies to groom your career, and you may also be busy with some motivational events. Singles may hear good news in terms of marriage, while couples may hear some good news in terms of childbirth.

Gemini May 21 – Jun 21
Today, you may plan for a change in place. However, it is advised to postpone the decision related to migration and to avoid investment in business. By late evening, the situation may be under control. With the help of good advice from one of your elders, you may control a messy situation.

Cancer Jun 22 – July 23
Today, you may have good patience, and meditation may help you to increase concentration, which will speed up your project. Your subordinates may cooperate with you, which may help you to complete the project before time. There may be some short travels related to work, and you may likely meet an influential person who may help you to boost your business.

Leo Jul 24 – Aug 23
Today, you may spend money to buy some artefacts to renovate your house, which may increase your social status. You may implement some new plans into your family business, which will pay you in terms of gains in the near future. You may also be busy in family or social get-togethers.

Virgo Aug 24 – Sep 23
Today is a good day for you. You may have good vitality and health, and you may enjoy your work. Your challenge today is to avoid straightforwardness. It is advised to avoid arguments on worthless topics; otherwise, there may be some disputes in the family. Job seekers may find suitable jobs, and love birds are advised to avoid making arguments on worthless topics.

Libra Sep 24 – Oct 22
Today, you are not blessed by the moon, and you may feel unhappy.
You may become impatient today and may find it difficult to perform your task and fulfill your desires. You may want to be detached from the given responsibility, and you may not be able to complete any task

Scorpio Oct 23 – Nov 22
Today, you are blessed by the moon, and work-related pressure may go off. Your earnings may convert into profits now, and you are likely to invest for a long-term period. You may get an overseas work order, which may give you financial benefits in the coming future. You may also find your soul mate, and students may hear good news in their academics.

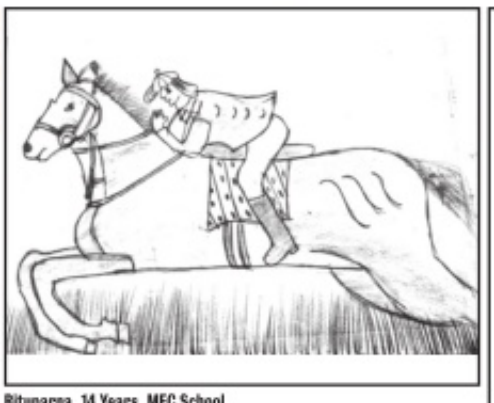
Sagittarius Nov 23 – Dec 22
Today, you are blessed by the positive moon, and you may perform well in your professional front. You may implement your business plans very easily with the help of your subordinates. Intellectual investments and financial investments may start giving profits now, which may increase your confidence level. You may use your wisdom to gain benefits.

Capricorn Dec 23 – Jan 20
Today, you are blessed by the moon, and your spiritual power may make you happy. Your way of thinking may be positive, and you may be inclined towards spiritualism today. You may plan to visit some spiritual place, and you may also take interest in occult science. You are likely to observe flawlessness in your nature. It is advised to keep your views with you only and try to discuss with those persons who may understand your feelings; otherwise, you may be a victim of conspiracy.

Aquarius Jan 21 – Feb 19
Today, you may feel dull and lack patience. Seeking peace, you may be attracted to the occult. It is advised to follow your intuition before making any important decisions. Through meditation and chanting mantras, you may gain depth knowledge on a subject and focus on it.

Pisces Feb 20 – Mar 20
Today, you are blessed by the moon, which may help you improve your inner strength. You are likely to receive new opportunities for your business and work, which will pay off in terms of gains in the near future. Couples may hear good news in terms of childbirth. Love birds are advised to be clear in their views with each other to maintain harmony in their relationship.

KIDZONE



Rituparna, 14 Years, MEC School

Vivek, 15 Years, MEC School

Kidzone, Bangalore Mirror, No.4, KSCCF Compound, Pampa Maha Kavi Road, Chamrajpet, Bengaluru 560 018; Please send hard copies of your artwork in A4 size only.

SOLUTIONS

SOLVE IN 1M
2cm =100km
2.5cm=?
2:2.5 =100: ?
?= 2.5*100/2
=2.5*100=125 km
(2cm =100km; 1cm =60 km;
2.5 cm = 2.5 * 50=125 km)

QUOTE UNCODE
The smaller the head, the bigger the dream.

BULL'S EYE
country, COUNTRY, county, crony, your

FAST FIVE

S	A	C	K	S
C	R	U	E	L
R	A	B	B	I
A	B	E	A	M
G	A	B	B	Y

STRIKE OUT

L	E	T	D	O	W	N	O	V	A	L	S	I		
S	K	E	T		D	E	A	L	S	I	N			
L	E	T	U	P		S	C	A	R	C	E	R		
P	A	I	D	F	O	R		S	T	A	I	D		
W	I	S	D	O	M		A	D	A	G	E	S		
B	O	M	B	S		E	V	A	S	I	V	E		
G	R	E		E	V	E		E		I				
N	E	D	I	E	R		E	L	E	C	T			
O	H		D	E	X	P	A	T		A				
T	S	C	O	R	E		E		E					

QUICK

O	U	T	N	U	M	B	E	R	E	D				
D		I		H		M		N						
N	E	E	D	E	D		I	T	C	H	E	D		
A		U		A	L	L		L		E				
V	I	C	A	R	S		C	A	U	S	E	D		
A		I		E		C		W		N				
H	O	N	S	H	U		L	A	H	O	R	E		
P		U		T		B		R		P				
L	O	T	I	O	N		H	A	G	G	I	S		
A		S		O	R	C		N		U				
B	R	A	S	S	Y		T	H	I	N	K	S		
U		E		A		I		U		L				
C	A	M	A	R	A	D	E	R	I	E				

MENSA PUZZLE
3: 39 + 72 = 111, 21 + 16 = 37, 111 ÷ 37 = 3.

RIDDLER
Today is January 1. Two days ago, on December 30, Charles was 46; yesterday, he had his 47th birthday. Later this year, Charles will turn 48, and so next year he will turn 49.

SUDOKU

9	5	7	1	2	6	4	3	8
3	4	2	7	9	8	6	1	5
1	6	8	4	3	5	9	7	2
4	9	5	8	1	3	7	2	6
7	1	3	9	6	2	5	8	4
8	2	6	5	7	4	3	9	1
5	7	9	6	8	1	2	4	3
2	8	4	3	5	9	1	6	7
6	3	1	2	4	7	8	5	9

ALPHA TRIANGLE
U, Tu, Rut, Vurt, Rusty, Surety, Estuary.

GO FIGURE
9 – 8 + 6 + 6 = 13
Easy
9 x 3 + 5 / 4 = 8
Hard
2 x 7 – 5 + 1 = 10
Medium

LOOP

KAKURO

Volume No 15, Issue No 218 RNI NO:KARENG/2007/21142 Published for the Proprietors, Metropolitan Media Company Ltd by R.J. Prakashan at No.4, KSCCF Compound, Pampa Maha Kavi Road, Chamrajpet, Bengaluru 560 018 and printed by him at Fourth Estate Ltd, No. 9/10/11-A, 4th Main, Bommasandra Industrial Area, Hosur Road, Bengaluru 560099 (Phones : Press : 080-22899999; Editorial : 080-40877666, Fax – 40877545, Registered Office: No.4, KSCCF Compound, Pampa Maha Kavi Road, Chamarajpet, Bengaluru 560 018. Email : mybangaloremirror@timesgroup.com Editor : Ms. Seena Menon – responsible for selection of news under PRB Act. © Reproduction in whole or in part without the written permission of the Publisher is prohibited.

Teary tributes— Admirers thronged the Kozhikode Town Hall where veteran actor Mamukkoya's mortal remains were kept after he passed away on Wednesday. He will be buried in Kannam Paramb on Thursday

A fine balance

Alia Bhatt on the anxieties of straddling two worlds

Alia Bhatt has embraced motherhood beautifully after the birth of her daughter Raha Kapoor. She's also getting back to work slowly as she shot for a small portion of 'Rocky Aur Rani Ki Prem Kahani' in Kashmir after Raha was born. The actress has slowly gotten back to handling professional commitments along with making public appearances at events.

Alia said in a recent interview that it makes her anxious to think whether she's doing right with her baby and work because there's so much pressure on women to ace both. It's like this old-school dogma, she says, that once a woman has a baby, they have to martyr their career or they're not a model mom. Alia added that it's very important for new mothers to get that time to gather their bearings and it's equally crucial for organisations and industries to grant them the time they need, instead of just writing them off. Alia also confessed that she wonders if people actually think she's managing well or are they only saying it to placate her? Even if there's no judgement, the actress is critical of herself. That's why she works hard on her mental health, goes for therapy every week where she can voice these fears. It helps Alia understand this isn't something she'll be able to figure out in a day or two or even five or ten. It's an ever-evolving process and one has to pick themselves up and build up something new each day, expressed Alia. There's nothing like 'I have all the answers' because nobody has all the answers, she added.

Though, the actress also said that Raha is a happy, peaceful baby. There are days when she's not that way and it's okay, she's allowed to be that. But there are also days for mothers when they're not good and that's fine. Ranbir and Alia feel holding Raha and spending time with her is important because they know she's growing up fast and then she may not want to sit in her mother's lap anymore. —ETimes

Ready for Ken-ergy?

CinemaCon turned pink as it joined the bandwagon of the craze for the movie 'Barbie'. The filmmaker Greta Gerwig took the stage with actor Ryan Gosling (Ken) and Margot Robbie (Barbie) to reveal extended footage from the much-awaited toy line series 'Barbie'.

According to Deadline, a US-based media house, the trio discussed their take on finding the Ken for the Barbie. The director said, "That's wonderful about Ryan, and I never met him".

"Then one day I was bleaching my hair and spiking my hair, wearing bespoke outfits and rollerblading down Venice Beach," Ryan joked about how Gerwig and Robbie pulled him into the feature take on the legendary toy line.

Gosling who later narrated how was his experience of understanding the character was, "I have to be honest: I only knew Ken from afar, I didn't know him from within. I didn't know my Ken-ergy, I finally think I know what Dorothy felt like."

Greta explained how she ruined multiple scenes for Ken as he would deliver them "like a drama. —ANI

Made for each other

Priyanka Chopra Jonas and Nick Jonas got married in December 2018 and since then, they're serving couple goals. They indeed can't get enough of each other and are each other's biggest cheerleaders.

In a recent interview when Priyanka was asked about the impact she has on Nick and there's a video where she literally made his jaw drop, she laughed and said she's Nick's biggest fan. She added that she's so glad to have a partner who is as supportive as him but even he maker her jaw drop all day and there's nothing wrong with that. "I'm his biggest fan," declared Priyanka. While Nick supported PC for the promotions of 'Citadel', the actress also goes to cheer for him at his shows. Priyanka added that she's going for his show after her screening because that's what family does - they show up for each other. —ETimes

SANDALWOOD SHOTS

Y MAHESWARA REDDY

Starry comeback

Four years after she made a decision to quit acting, Sangeetha Bhat will make a comeback with the film Klaantha – Weekend with lover.

"Klaantha is very close to my heart because it is the movie that facilitated a comeback for me after a gap of more than four years. I have to thank director Vaibhav Prashanth for approaching to act in this movie despite knowing that I am away from acting. The director helped me a lot during the shooting. I play a different role in this movie. I also have an action scene where I fight off my foes. Most of the shooting of this movie was held in forest and it was very challenging for me," says Sangeetha.

She said the movie revolves around a couple who go on a tour. Director Vaibhav Prashanth said Klaantha conveys a message to youth. "It emphasises on the ill-effects of youngsters lying to their parents to go on a trip."

Adipurush at fest

The magnum opus Adipurush which is set to release in Kannada, Hindi, Telugu, Tamil and Malayalam in a few months has been selected for screening at Tribeca Festival scheduled to be held from June 7 to 18. Adipurush that is scheduled for release on July 16, will be screened at the festival in New York on June 13.

"It is our vision of a story that resonates with the very spirit of India. When I learnt that Adipurush has been selected by the esteemed jury of one of the prestigious film festivals in the world that I always aspired to be at as a student! This very premiere at Tribeca Festival is truly surreal for me as well as the entire team as we get to showcase a story on a global stage that has been very ingrained in our culture! We are truly thrilled and excited to see the audience's reaction at the world premiere," the film's team said in a press release.

Prabhas, who played the lead in Adipurush, said that he is honoured.

"It's an absolute privilege to be a part of a project that mirrors the ethos of our nation."